



# Culture of Caring

LIVING OUR MISSION AND VALUES

**TESTIMONY OF  
THE CHARLOTTE HUNGERFORD HOSPITAL  
SUBMITTED TO THE  
FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE  
Monday, March 9, 2015**

**SB 946, An Act Concerning Revenue Items To Implement The Governor's Budget**

**GOOD EVENING. I'M DAN McINTYRE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHARLOTTE HUNGERFORD HOSPITAL IN TORRINGTON, CT SERVING 120,000 LIVES IN NW CT. I AM HERE TONIGHT TO TESTIFY ON BEHALF OF ALL THOSE WE SERVE. THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO SHARE MY THOUGHTS WITH YOU!**

- Charlotte Hungerford Hospital maintains a Joint Commission Patient Safety Score of 97.8%, serves a government-insured population in excess of 72%, and intentionally remains the lowest cost Hospital in the State for most of the last 13 years running.
- Beginning in 2012, the Administration of this State has allowed more than \$400 million in Medicaid funds to be diverted from caring for Medicaid Patients, through a mechanism known as a Hospital Tax.
- These funds were clearly intended to be used to care for the sick, but were used instead, to solve a State budget problem.
- If the Governor's budget is passed, the total amount of Medicaid funds diverted through this Hospital Tax will amount to over \$900 million!

- At the single most crucial time in the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in Connecticut, the Executive Branch of our State Government has repeatedly taken the exact dollars that were intended to support this initiative, and used the money instead, to solve the State's Budget problem!
- In my discussions with both the Regional and National offices of CMS, they have stated that even they think this practice, although legal, is not fair.
- On behalf of our State's Medicaid Patients, I implore you to discontinue this practice of using a Hospital Tax to divert money which is clearly intended for serving a financially disadvantaged group of Connecticut's Patients.
- This practice is unfair to Medicaid Patients, it is an embarrassment to our State, and it is hurtful to those of us who spend our lives caring for Connecticut's ill and injured!

Thank you.

Daniel J. McIntyre